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REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 10 September 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 10 September 1996 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the policy of aggression which the United States of America continues to pursue in respect of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 11 and 147 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/51/150.

ANNEX

Letter dated 10 September 1996 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Pursuant to my letter of 9 September 1996, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that the United States of America is continuing to pursue its policy of aggression against Iraq; United States troops have continued, in concert with those who support them, to violate Iraqi airspace.

A total of 10 violations were perpetrated on 9 September in the north of Iraq by American aircraft taking off from Turkish territory. A total of 68 took place in southern Iraq, carried out by aircraft coming from Saudi territory. The aircraft involved were all supported by AWACS aircraft beyond our borders, in Turkish and Saudi airspace.

These military operations constitute a flagrant effort to undermine the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq and contravene the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

I should also like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the question of the no-fly zones imposed against Iraq by the United States of America and the United Kingdom. I would recall that the Iraqi Government has stated on numerous occasions that the imposition of such zones is a unilateral act that should be considered to be an ongoing act of armed aggression directed against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Iraq and contravenes the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law. The Government of the Republic of Iraq holds the States which imposed the creation of these zones to be accountable before international law for the damage such measures may inflict on Iraq.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq calls upon the United Nations to assume its responsibility under the Charter and to take the necessary steps to halt the aforementioned acts of aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 11 and 147 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq